Modern Greek Studies Foundation

Μαντατοφόρος*

The Nikos Kazantzakis Chair

Center for Modern Greek Studies
San Francisco State University

Spring 1992 * MANDATOPHOROS: Bearer of news, messenger Vol. 8, No. 1

Harry Mark Petrakis Earns Loyal Following

How dedicated is Kazantzakis Chairholder, ***Harry Mark Petrakis***, to his appointment? Consider this: in his Kazantzakis course, a careful selection of everything — from classroom setting to reading material — have all taken place. On Kazantzakis' birthday, Mr. Petrakis and ***Center for Modern Greek Studies*** Director ***Thanasis Maskaleris***, organized a celebration party for the class -- a Kazantzakis pictorial display, and plenty of food and drink, including ***Mrs. Diana Petrakis*** homemade baklava, were all part of the festivities.

Left to right: Effie Kalafatis, Thanasis Maskaleris, Steven Mavromihalis and Harry Mark Petrakis during the Kazantzakis birthday celebration.

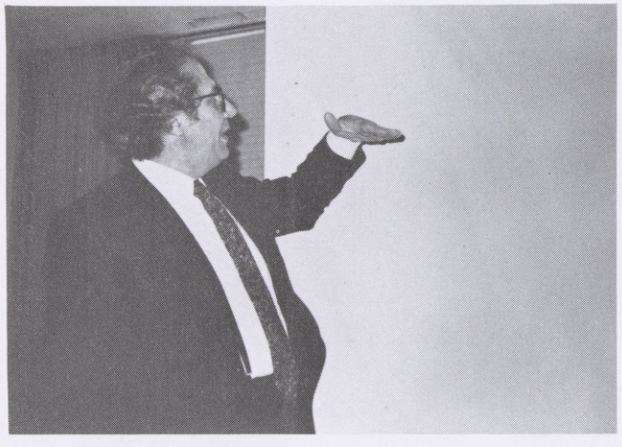
*Mr. Petrakis reading from **Zorba the Greek**.*

But the Kazantzakis class is not the only group reaping the benefits of Mr. Petrakis' presence and instruction: his Advanced Short Story workshop has also been rewarded. In this arena, Mr. Petrakis' expert tutelage brings together the written story and the oral tale — a specialized form for which Mr. Petrakis is a distinguished speaker.

Mr. Petrakis has also been involved in a number of campus and community activities. In addition to meetings and receptions with school administration and faculty, Mr. Petrakis has been the guest at several Greek-American community events. Two upcoming programs of note, a reading with Mr. Petrakis and his chair lecture on Nikos Kazantzakis, are scheduled in April and May — for details, see page 2.

The Lecture Circuit

The first six months of 1992 have seen and will see a number of lectures presented on Greek and Greek American history, literature and archaeology. Here are highlights — mark your calendars for the two lectures by Visiting Professor, ***Harry Mark Petrakis****, in April and May!*



Dimitris Pandermalis:

The ***Center***, the ***San Francisco Chapter of the Pan-Macedonian Association***, ***Democritos*** and a number of other organizations sponsored a lecture by ***Dr. Dimitris Pandermalis*** (above) entitled, "An Archaeological Walk in Ancient Macedonia." The event, which took place on March 1, featured a slides presentation of Dion, the site where Dr. Pandermalis is director of excavations; ancient sites of Macedonia were also shown. A professor at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Dr. Pandermalis is a world-renown scholar of classical archaeology. His lectures on the art, history and culture of Macedonia were presented throughout California in February and March, coordinated by the ***Center of Macedonian Studies of the Pan-Macedonian Association of the United States and Canada.***

Harry Mark Petrakis:

Two upcoming lectures are scheduled for Visiting Chairholder, ***Harry Mark Petrakis***. On April 2, the ***Center for Modern Greek Studies*** and the distinguished ***Poetry Center*** of San Francisco State University, in cooperation with the ***Holy Trinity Church***, will sponsor Mr. Petrakis in a reading and discussion of his works. The event will begin in the church hall at 7:30 PM, and a reception, with food and wine courtesy of ***Peloponnese Foods*** and the Holy Trinity Church, will follow; admission is $4 general, free for Poetry Center members.

On Thursday, May 14 at 7:30 PM, Mr. Petrakis will deliver the Kazantzakis Chair lecture. Presented by the ***Center***, in cooperation with the ***Holy Trinity Church***, the event will also be held in its church hall. The lecture will be on Kazantzakis and the place of Crete in his writing. The public is invited and admission is free.

For additional information on the above two events, please call the Center at 415-338-1892.

Nanos Valaoritis:

The ***Center*** and ***Democritos Professional Society*** have recently co-sponsored a number of lectures on Modern Greek literature on the ***Stanford*** campus. Latest in the co-sponsored series was "Modern Greek Poetry: Contributions to World Literature," a lecture by ***Nanos Valaoritis***. The program, which included a reading of Professor Valaoritis' poetry and translations, was held on February 7. The works of noted Modern Greek poets, George Seferis, Constantine Kavafis, among others, and their impact on twentieth century poetry were also discussed. Professor Valaoritis is professor emeritus of Comparative Literature and Creative Writing at San Francisco State University.

1992 AXION Awards

Congratulations to ***Dr. Theodore Bogdanos*** and ***Dr. Beata Panagopoulos***, the 1992 ***Hellenic American Professional Society AXION Award*** recipients. The annual awards luncheon took place at the Villa Hotel in San Mateo. The scholars were honored for excellence in their fields, and for their service to the Greek-American community and beyond. Dr. Bogdanos is a professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Jose State University. Dr. Panagopoulos, a scholar on Byzantine art and architecture, is professor emeritus, also San Jose State University.

*Left to right: Dr. Bogdanos, Dr. Peter Haikalis, President of **HAPS**, and Dr. Panagapoulos.*

Recent Contributors to the MGSF and the Center

Pan Arcadian Federation of America
(Kolokotronis Chapter, #104, San Jose)
Pan Cretan Association of America
*(**Lefka Oree** Chapter, Modesto)*

* * * *

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Dr./Mrs. Kenneth Frangadakis
*John Gigounas * Dr. Peter Haikalis*
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*George & Mary Thodos * John Vasil*
*Athena Vutiritsas * M/M Jerry Zagorites*

Yannis Ritsos (1911-1989) -- A Selected Bibliography

Chronicle of Exile; Wire Press, 1977 *.
Eighteen Short Songs of the Bitter Motherland; North Central Publishing Co., 1974 *.
Exile and Return: Selected Poems 1967-74.; The Ecco Press, 1985.
The Fourth Dimension: Selected Poems of Yannis Ritsos; David R. Godine, 1977.
Gestures and Other Poems 1968-1970; Cape Goliard Press & Grossman Publ., 1977 *.
The Lady of the Vineyards; Pella Publishing Co., 1978.
Monovasia and the Women of Monemvasia; North Central Publishing Co., 1987.
The Moonlight Sonata;Tangent Books, 1975.
Ritsos in Parentheses; Princeton, 1979.
Romiossini and Other Poems; Quixote Press, 1969.
Scripture of the Blind; Ohio State University Press, 1979 (Bilingual edition).
Selected Poems (1938-88); BOA Editions, 1989.
Subterranean Horses; Ohio University Press, 1980 *.
Twelve for Cavafis; Realities Library, 1985.
Repetitions, Testmonies Parentheses; Princeton, 1991.

** includes illustrations by Yannis Ritsos.*

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Last , But not Least...

Smithsonian Campus Course :

Sotiris Kitrilakis, president of ***Peloponnese Foods***, will participate in a Smithsonian Campus course entitled, "A Celebration of the Foods and Wines of Greece." The event will be held in Washington D.C. from April 13 to June 3. The ***Center*** and ***Peloponnese Foods***, a frequent supporter of the Kazantzakis Chair, plan to repeat the program next Fall in San Francisco.

Autographed Petrakis Books:

Signed copies of the novels and short stories of Harry Mark Petrakis are available for sale at the ***Center***; they may also be purchased at Mr. Petrakis' April reading and May lecture. If you are interested, please call 415-338-1892.

Modern Greek Language Courses - - at Night:

In the coming Fall semster, ***Effie Kalafatis*** will be teaching an evening Modern Greek language course through the S.F.S.U. Extended Education division. In addition to the evening class, the ***Center*** will continue to offer Mrs. Kalafatis' day-time courses in Modern Greek. More information on all Fall courses in our next issue...

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